

Uplink Large Scale Employer Separations

Prepared by UIM Business Transition and Training Team

Through Uplink Employer Self Service you now have access to enhanced services 24/7. This web-based initiative from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development will allow you to access and maintain your state unemployment tax account easily and at your own convenience.

The Large Scale Employer Separation software is a user friendly way for an employer to establish an online profile for each period of layoff or shutdown.

To get started you sign on to ESS at www.in.gov/dwd and access the Large Scale Employer Separation software.

You enter basic information onto the LSES screen, including last day worked, return to work date and company contact information.

You then download a copy of your most recently filed wage report. From that report you select the employees involved in this particular layoff and enter the amount of any deductible income to be paid to that employee. Such as vacation or holiday pay.



LSES Advantages

- Reduced / Eliminated Fact Finding
- Faster Payments
- Reduced questions from employees

What are the advantages of using this online application?

One of the biggest advantages to you is if you provide the deductible income prior to the layoff, the agency should not have to contact you concerning deductible income.

This means the number of contacts an employer receives from the agency will be greatly reduced. In the past, you could have received literally hundreds of individual requests for income related issues.

Now, by using the online application, you can provide the department with that information up front and contained in one file.

This will lead to more timely payments to the claimant, which leads to reduced questions from the employee to you the employer.



CSV Files

- Universal file format
- Works with Excel and other spreadsheets
- Not dependent on the version of software
- Virtually any software can create a CSV file

The secret to this program is that the wage report downloaded to you is in CSV (Comma Separated Value) format.

CSV is a universal format. It works with any type or version of spreadsheet software.

There is a wizard that walks you through the process.

Sound easy enough?

Lets get started.

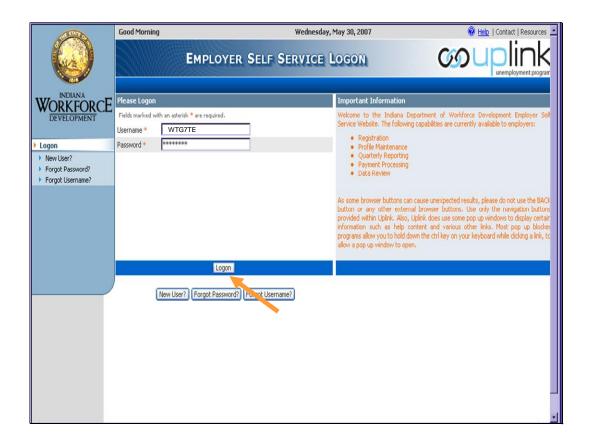


How do you access the Large Scale Employer Separation screen?

First, you must access the Uplink ESS system.

The easiest way is to click on the *Uplink ESS* link directly under the Employers heading in the center of the screen.

You can also click on the *Employers* heading, where you will be sent to a screen with several topics of interest to employers, including Uplink. You may also reach Uplink information by clicking on the *Unemployment Information* link second from the bottom in the Employers menu list.

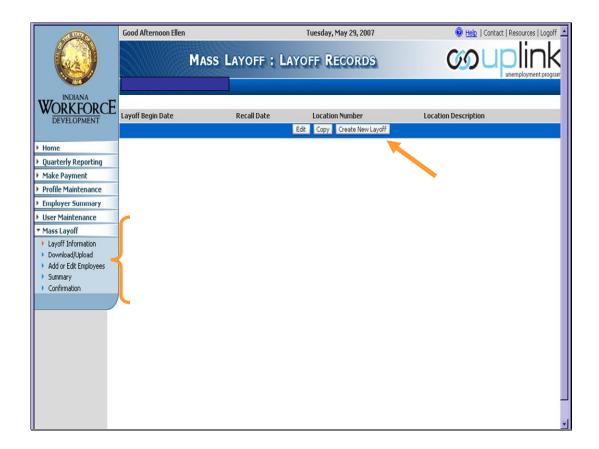


On the logon screen, you will enter your Username and Password that you previously created in the Employer Self Service (ESS) system and then click on the *Logon* button.



Your Employer Summary page is displayed.

You will need to click on the *Resource* link in the upper right section of the screen to access the Large Scale Employer Separations menu.

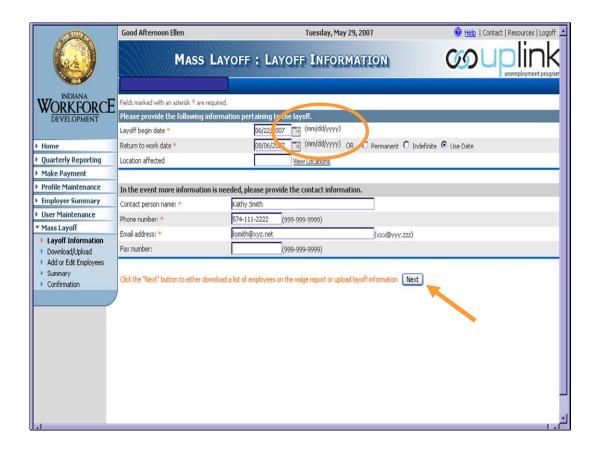


The Mass Layoff option, located on the left hand navigation bar, has a drop down menu with five options.

If prior layoffs had been entered into the system, they would be listed on this screen.

Since there are no lay off records shown on this screen, this will be your first entry into the LSES screens.

Click on Create a New Layoff to get started.

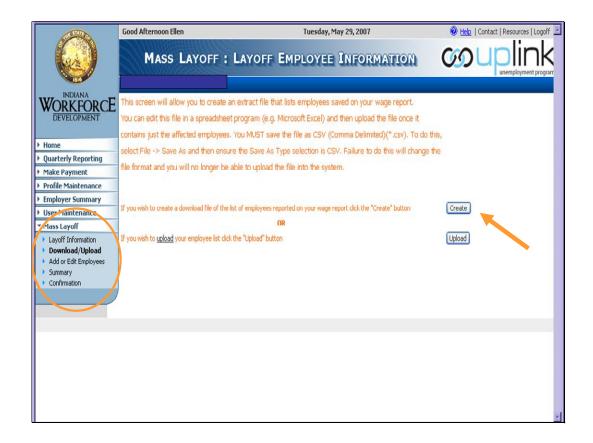


Here you enter information to create the layoff profile.

To enter a date, you can either manually type it in, using the correct format, or use the calendar icon.

Keep in mind the orange asterisks indicate mandatory fields.

Once all the information has been entered, click on the *Next* button.

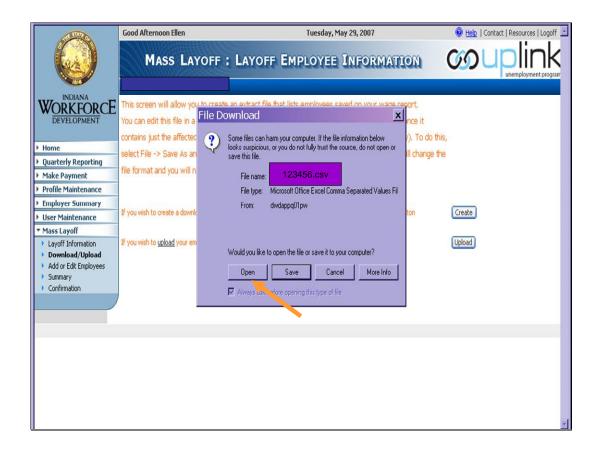


Note as you move through the screens, the drop down menu on the left side of the screen will **BOLD** the item you are currently working on. You can tell at a glance how far you have progressed through the screens. Notice Download/Upload is shown in **BOLD** font.

This screen gives you the option to either create the employee listing or Upload it.

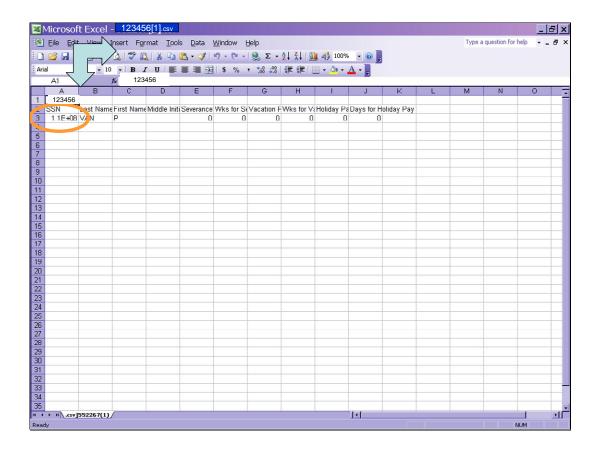
You must first create the report and save it before it can be uploaded.

Lets click on Create.



Once you click on *Create*, the File Download window is displayed.

Click *Open* and an entire list of your employees from your most recent quarterly wage file will be displayed.



Once you open the file, your most recently filed quarterly wage record will be downloaded into whatever spreadsheet software you use (such as Microsoft Excel, Lotus 123).

You will be able to view all employees listed on your wage report. Edit the spreadsheet to show only those employees affected by this particular layoff. Everyone else needs to be deleted.

If someone hired since you submitted your last quarterly wage report, is involved in this layoff, they will need to be added to this spreadsheet. To add a new employee, enter the social security number and their name.

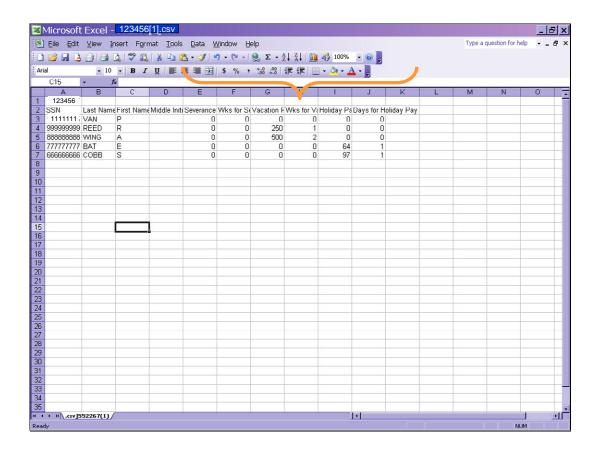
Since this is a Microsoft Excel document (any spreadsheet software can be used), you can sort by columns.

Maybe you want the employees listed in alphabetically order or possibly social security number order. To accomplish this, click on the column title (SSN or Last Name) and click on the A-Z or Z-A button on your toolbar.

The easiest place to edit the employee listing is from this spreadsheet. By using the scroll bar on the right side of the screen allows you to scroll through the employee listing.

Please note the scientific formula of the SSN column. This is due to the fact that when the file is downloaded to you, the social security number column is not wide enough to view the entire number.

To expand the column to the proper width, place your cursor on the cell separator line between Column A and Column B. Left click and hold your mouse down and drag the cell separator line to the right until the entire social security number is visible.



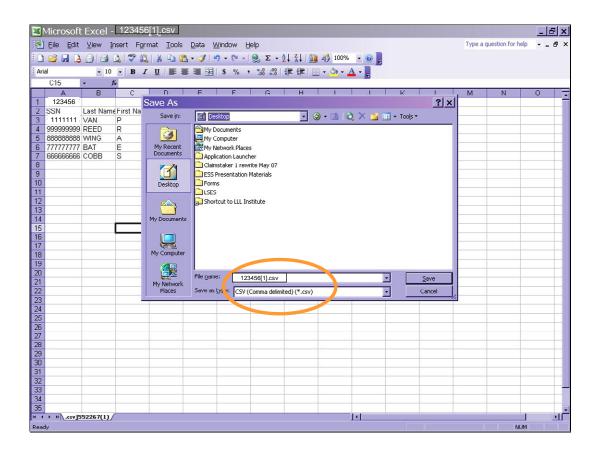
Keep in mind that some social security numbers start with zeros. The leading zeros in the social security number will automatically be suppressed, even after you expand the width of the column.

Not to worry. When you upload the file back to the Department, the leading zeros will be part of the social security number.

If anyone on the spreadsheet has/will receive any type of severance, vacation and or holiday pay, complete the appropriate columns showing the gross amount of the payment and how many weeks/days the payment will cover.

Please note holiday pay is shown in days but severance and vacation pay are listed as weeks. Any portion of a week is rounded up for vacation or severance pay. For example, if you paid someone three days vacation pay, it will be shown as one week.

Once you have a complete listing of the affected employees and have indicated the specifics for the vacation, holiday or severance pay, you are ready to save the file.

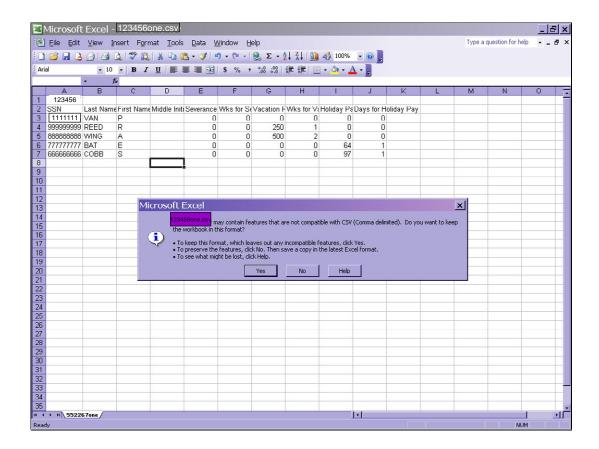


The Save As box will default to the CSV format. You need to make certain you maintain that CSV format.

Why?

This assures when you upload the file back to the department, it will be in the correct format.

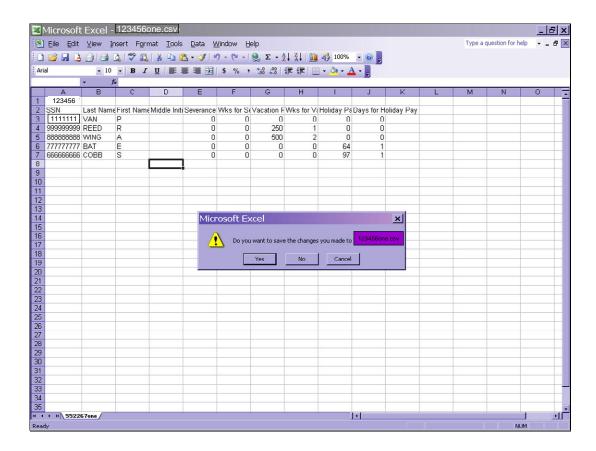
Click Save.



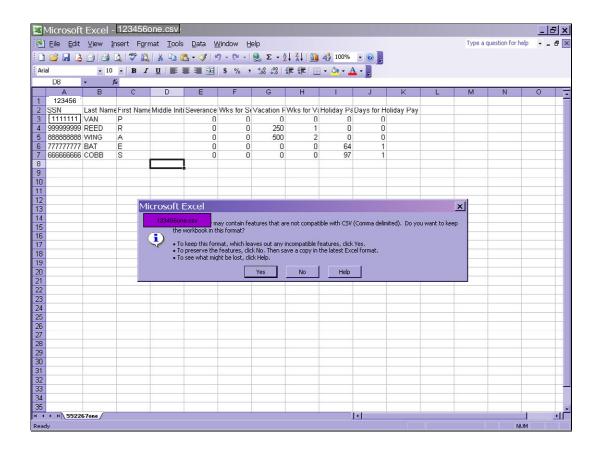
Once you click on the Save button, this pop up window is visible asking if you want to maintain the file in CSV format.

You will be asked this three different times.

You need to click Yes, each time, to assure the saved file will remain in the correct CSV format.



This is the second time you are asked if you want to maintain the file in CSV format.



When you click Yes the third time, the spreadsheet software will close and you will be taken back to the Layoff Employee Information screen.



You are now ready to start the process to upload the spreadsheet to the Department of Workforce Development.

Click on Upload.



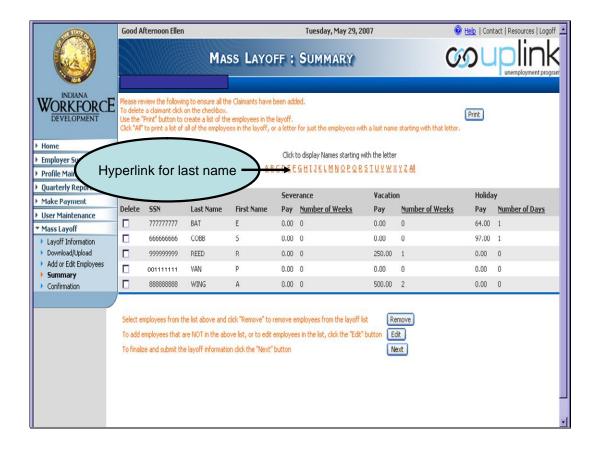
You will need to click the Browse button to locate your saved file.

Once you locate the saved file, click on it.

The address window is now populated with the address of the file.

We are ready to upload the file.

Click on Upload.



This is the summary screen of the uploaded file.

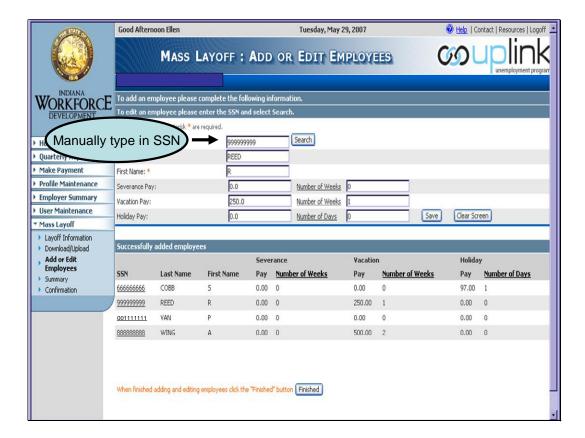
If it is a case that you need to add or edit the list, there are various ways to find an employee.

You can click on the hyperlink of the individual letter of the employees last name.

Or you can line select the individual name from the listing on the bottom of the screen and click on the Edit button.

From this screen, you can remove or edit employees that were included in this layoff record. You can also print a list of the affected employees.

Keep in mind you can only see a limited number of employees on this screen at one time. For that reason, it is easier to make your corrections on the spreadsheet itself and then upload the corrected file.

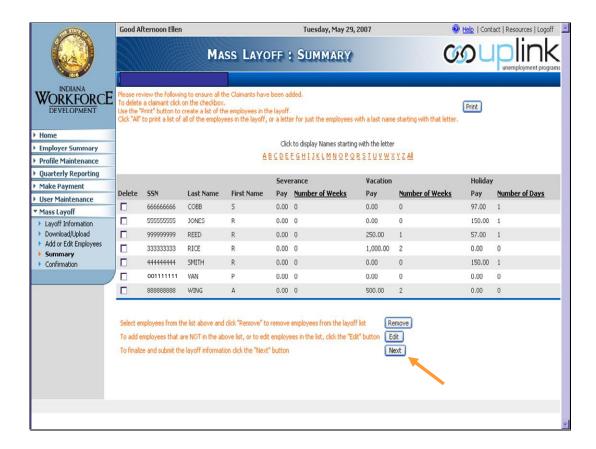


There are a couple of ways to edit a record.

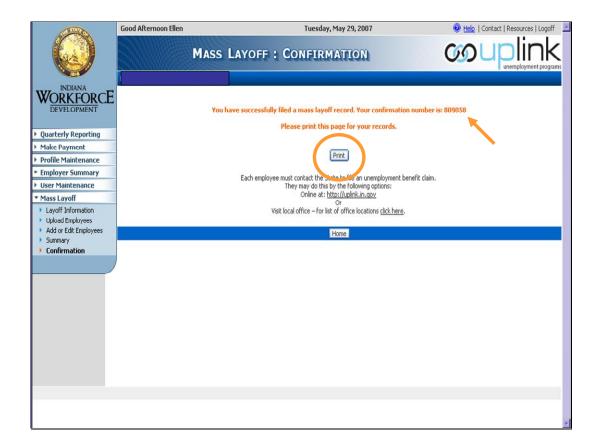
You can manually type the social security number in the Employee social security number field and click on the *Search* button.

Or you can locate the employee in the detailed listing on the bottom half of the screen and click on that individual's social security link.

Lets edit Mr. Reed's record to show he received \$57.00 holiday pay. Once you add the information to the top portion of the screen and click on *Save*, the bottom of the screen will be updated.



Once your data for this layoff is correct and complete, click on *Next* to finalize and submit the layoff report.



This is your confirmation page that you have successfully submitted a layoff record.

We encourage you to print this page as it contains your confirmation number.

You can access your home page by clicking on the Home button or click on the Logoff button to exit the system.



This is what the Mass Layoff screen looks like after you have accessed the system and completed the data entry.

This particular employer has entered two records.

You would have the ability to copy an existing layoff record up to 60 days past the original layoff date.



Thank you for your interest in the Large Scale Employer Separation Uplink system.

If you need further information, please contact Carol Hunter, Kathy Sebelski or Jeremie Dexter at the phone number or email addresses listed on this screen.

Or you may contact the DWD Call Center at 1-800-891-6499